

Claims

What is claimed is:

1 A method for generating pixels for a display device, the method comprising:

- 5 storing a plurality samples in a memory;
reading a first portion of samples from the memory, wherein the first portion of samples corresponds to pixels in at least two neighboring scan lines;
filtering a first subset of the first portion of samples to generate a first pixel in a first scan line;
10 filtering a second subset of the first portion of samples to generate a second pixel in a second scan line, wherein the second scan line neighbors the first scan line.

2. The method of claim 1,
wherein the first subset of the first portion of samples includes a plurality of
15 common samples with the second subset of the first portion of samples.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
storing the first portion of samples in a cache memory after said reading;
wherein said filtering the first subset comprises accessing the first subset of the
20 first portion of samples from the cache memory;
wherein said filtering the second subset comprises accessing the second subset of the first portion of samples from the cache memory.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
25 accessing a third subset of the first portion of samples from the cache memory;
filtering the third subset of the first portion of samples to generate a third pixel in the first scan line, wherein the third pixel neighbors the first pixel in the first scan line;
accessing a fourth subset of the first portion of samples from the cache memory;

filtering the fourth subset of the first portion of samples to generate a fourth pixel in the second scan line, wherein the fourth pixel neighbors the second pixel in the second scan line.

- 5 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 reading a second portion of samples from the memory, wherein the second portion of samples corresponds to pixels in the at least two neighboring scan lines, wherein the second portion of samples neighbors the first portion of samples;
 filtering a first subset of the second portion of samples to generate a third pixel in
10 the first scan line;
 filtering a second subset of the second portion of samples to generate a fourth pixel in the second scan line.

6. The method of claim 5,
 wherein the third pixel neighbors the first pixel in the first scan line; and
 wherein the fourth pixel neighbors the second pixel in the second scan line.

7. The method of claim 1,
 wherein the first subset of the second portion of samples includes a plurality of
20 common samples with the first subset of the first portion of samples;
 wherein the second subset of the second portion of samples includes a plurality of common samples with the second subset of the first portion of samples;

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
25 performing said reading, and said steps of filtering a plurality of times to generate all pixels in the first and second scan lines.

9. A method for generating pixels for a display device, the method comprising:
30 storing a plurality samples in a memory;

reading a first portion of samples from the memory, wherein the first portion of samples corresponds to pixels in at least two neighboring scan lines;

filtering respective subsets of the first portion of samples to generate a plurality of respective pixels, wherein the plurality of respective pixels are in a plurality of scan lines;

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10. The method of claim 9,

wherein each of the respective subsets of the first portion of samples includes a plurality of common samples with another one of the respective subsets of the first portion of samples.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein the plurality of scan lines comprises 2 scan lines.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the plurality of scan lines comprises greater than 2 scan lines.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein said filtering respective subsets comprises:

filtering a first subset of the first portion of samples to generate a first pixel in a first scan line;

filtering a second subset of the first portion of samples to generate a second pixel in a second scan line, wherein the second scan line neighbors the first scan line.

14. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

storing the first portion of samples in a cache memory after said reading;

wherein said filtering respective subsets of the first portion of samples comprises accessing the respective subsets of the first portion of samples from the cache memory.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

accessing different respective subsets of the first portion of samples from the cache memory; and

filtering the different respective subsets of the first portion of samples to generate a different plurality of respective pixels, wherein the different plurality of respective pixels are in the plurality of scan lines.

- 5 16. A graphics system, comprising:
a memory for storing a plurality samples;
a filter unit operable to

read a first portion of samples from the memory, wherein the first portion of samples corresponds to pixels in at least two neighboring scan lines;

filter a first subset of the first portion of samples to generate a first pixel in a first scan line;

filter a second subset of the first portion of samples to generate a second pixel in a second scan line, wherein the second scan line neighbors the first scan line.

wherein the pixels are useable in presenting an image on a display device.

Subpart 10

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